

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## BIKE SHARE PROGRAM PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

The City of Tucson is exploring the potential of a public bike share program for the region. Bike share programs are a service where people can use a public bicycle on a short-term basis. More than 30 cities in the U.S. have launched this new transit option for their residents and tourists, and 15 more cities are expected to launch this shared-use program by the end of the year, including Phoenix.

"This is an exciting project that has the potential to leverage our investment in the Sun Link Streetcar and continue the progress Tucson is making in terms of downtown revitalization and economic growth," said Ann Chanecka, the City of Tucson's Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator.

In order to learn all facets of launching and operating a bike share system, the City of Tucson has hired a national consulting firm, Toole Design Group (TDG), who has experience with bike share systems in nearly 20 U.S. cities. Next week staff from TDG will visit Tucson and provide information to key stakeholder groups and solicit input on the opportunities and challenges Tucson has for creating a successful bike share system. There are nine different stakeholder sessions scheduled including:

- Neighborhood Groups
- Business Interests
- The University of Arizona Campus Community
- Bicycle Advisory Committee

Anyone interested in learning more about public bike share programs or wanting to provide input in the early stages of this discussion, there will be a public input session on Monday, October 6, 2014, at 6 p.m. in the basement of the Joel D. Valdez Main Library at 101 N. Stone Ave.

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